Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 13600 01 OF 02 280248Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
----------113210 280255Z /70
P 280236Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9942

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 13600

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JA, US, CH
SUBJECT: STATUS OF JAPAN-CHINA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA JULY 27 GAVE AMBASSADOR STATUS REPORT ON JAPAN-PRC TREATY NEGOTIATIONS. HE RECALLED HIS RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH AND BRITISH, NOTING EUROPEANS' INCREASED INTEREST IN ARMS SALES AND IN DEVELOPING THEIR LONG-TERM ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH PRC. ON PFT NEGOTIATIONS, HE SAID THEY WERE PROCEEDING ABOUT AS JAPAN HAD EXPECTED WITH CHINESE STILL ASKING FOR AGREEMENT ON HEGEMONY PRINCIPLES FIRST. TALKS NOW IN RECESS TO PERMIT CHINESE TO COORDINATE THEIR VIEWS. SONODA TAKING PATIENT VIEW, BELIEVING TREND IS TOWARD CONCLUSION OF TREATY BUT HE IS NOT RUSHING TO GO TO PEKING. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF SONODA'S IMPRESSION OF BONN SUMMIT, AMBASSADOR ASKED FOR RUN-DOWN ON STATUS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH PRC ON PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY.

3. SONODA REPLIED THAT DURING HIS VISIT TO EUROPE THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD HIM FRANCE PLANNED TO SUPPLY DEFENSIVE ARMS TO PRC. SONODA NOTED WRYLY THAT HE HAD ASKED WHETHER THEY MEANT ANTI-TANK WEAPONS. THE FRENCH
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TOKYO 13600 01 OF 02 280248Z

REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY, AND SAID THEY WOULD SOON ANNOUNCE A PLANNED REVIEW OF THEIR TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH PRC WHICH WOULD FACILITATE ARMS SALES. THE BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER HAD TOLD HIM THAT THEY ARE ALSO BEING APPROACHED BY THE CHINESE AND HE ASKED WHETHER THIS WOULD CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR JAPAN. SONODA SAID HE HAD REPLIED IN THE NEGATIVE AND ENCOURAGED THE BRITISH TO PURSUE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

BILATERAL TALKS WITH THE PRC.

4. SONODA SAID HIS OWN IMPRESSION WAS THAT SINCE THE BRZEZINSKI TRIP THE PATTERN HAD BEEN CONSTANT. HE SAID HE FELT THAT THE EUROPEANS WERE INTERESTED IN ARMS SALES BUT THAT THEY ALSO WANTED LONG-TERM TRADE ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDING LOANS AND JOINT VENTURES. HE SAID HE FELT THE U.S. AND JAPAN SHOULD TAKE DUE NOTE OF THIS EUROPE-CHINA DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID THAT HE BELIEVED CHINA, WHILE APPOACHING BOTH JAPAN AND U.S. ON DEVELOPMENT OF OIL RESOURCES, HAD ALSO APPROACHED EUROPEANS AND WANTED TO DEAL WITH WHOMEVER FURNISHED THE BEST TERMS. SONODA SAID HE SHOULD NOT FORGET ROLE OF HONG KONG; IMPORTANT FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT CHINA AND ALSO, POTENTIALLY, AS A TRANSFER POINT FOR ARMS.

5. TURNING TO THE PFT NEGOTIATIONS HE NOTED THAT SINCE THAT STARTED ON JULY 21 THEY WERE PROCEEDING IN THE DIRECTION AND THE TIMING THAT JAPAN EXPECTED. SATO HAD TOLD CHINESE THAT U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS HAVE TOP PRIORITY IN JAPANESE FOREIGN POLICY. SONODA SAID THE CHINESE SAID THEY UNDERSTOOD AND APPRECIATED JAPAN'S POSITION AND TOOK VIEW THAT JAPANESE-CHINESE RELATIONS HAD SECOND PRIORITY. SONODA SAID JAPAN HAD MADE CLEAR IT DID NOT LOOK UPON SOVIET UNION AS ENEMY. THE CHINESE HAD RESPONDED THAT SINCE SOVIETS CONTROLLED NORTHERN TERRITORIES AND HAD

SECRET

SECRET

INTRUDED IN JAPANESE WATERS, THEIR ACTIVITIES APPEARED HEGEMONIC.

6. SONODA SAID JAPAN HAD PRESENTED ITS DRAFT OF PFT, AND CHINA HAD PRESENTED ITS VIEWS ON DRAFT. A HEGEMONY CLAUSE HAD BEEN INCLUDED BUT CHINESE WANTED MORE EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO SOVIETS; THUS MORE DISCUSSION WAS NEEDED. SATO HAD SUGGESTED THAT OTHER ASPECTS OF TREATY SHOULD BE DISCUSSED FIRST, BUT CHINESE WISHED TO ADDRESS HEGEMONY ISSUE FIRST. TALKS WERE THEREFORE NOW IN RECESS, GIVING CHINESE TIME TO COORDINATE THEIR INTERNAL VIEWS. SONODA BELIEVES THE CHINESE HAVE A DESIRE TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS BUT THAT IT IS STILL DIFFICULT TO SEE THE OUTCOME. FOR ITS PART, JAPAN HAD HAD TO CONSULT WITHIN LDP. WHEN JAPAN'S NEGOTIATORS RETURNED HOME TO REPORT TO PRIME MINISTER, HE WOULD MAKE FINAL DECISION AS TO WHETHER SONODA WOULD GO TO PEKING.

7. SONODA SAID CHINA HAD ASKED THAT DETAILS OF NEGOTIATIONS NOT BE PUBLICIZED. HE SAID HE BELIEVED THIS REFLECTED POSSIBILITY OF FACTIONAL DIFFERENCES WITHIN PRC LEADERSHIP WITH RESPECT TO PFT. HE OBSERVED THAT IF CHOU EN-LAI WERE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

ALIVE, NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE SMOOTHER.

8. SONODA SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THEY WERE MOVING IN THE DIRECTION OF A TREATY, BUT AS TO SHAPE OF SOLUTION IT WAS WISE TO BE PATIENT. AMBASSADOR SATO WAS DOING A GOOD JOB AND SONODA DID NOT PROPOSE TO RUSH TO CHINA BUT RATHER TO WAIT AND WATCH CLOSELY. IN CLOSING, SONODA NOTED HE HAD GIVEN US MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS THEN HE HAD

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 13600 02 OF 02 280248Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
----------113239 280256Z /70
P 280236Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9943

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 TOKYO 13600

NODIS

THE PRIME MINISTER.

9. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PASS ALL OR PARTS THIS MESSAGE TO PEKING, HONG KONG, PARIS, LONDON, AND BONN.
MANSFIELD

SECRET

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO13600
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840156-2602
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780711/aaaaaitl.tel
Line Count: 153
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f476566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1858936
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF JAPAN-CHINA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PEPR, ECON, ETRD, US, JA, CH, (MANSFIELD, MICHAEL J), (SONODA, SUNAO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f476566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014